not weaken digestion like the alkalies. Far from doing so, its most important use is as a tonic of the alimentary system in cases of obstinate dyspepsia. As such, its action is much more powerful than that of the vegetable stomachic tonics. It is suitable for cases with too little as well as for those with too great secretion of gastric juice, no doubt because the former state of matters is obviously a result of atony, which the lime removes. It seems particularly serviceable in gouty constitutions. In the dyspepsia of hysterical and anæmic cases it does not seem to be of great use. Care should be taken to tell the patient not to take it before breakfast, as it sometimes causes a degree of nausea in the morning, when the stomach is empty. It suits very well to take it immediately after meals; its alkalinity does not at all interfere with digestion. Practitioners seem generally to take up the prejudice beforehand, that saccharated lime must be liable to produce constipation, probably judging so from the action of chalk; but I wish particularly to insist that it has not, in the slightest degree, any tendency to occasion such an effect. On the contrary, it is a very valuable means of overcoming gradually that chronic constipation which is so frequent an accompaniment of dyspepsia; and persons who have for years been in the constant habit of using aperient medicines have been able to abandon them in great measure after taking this remedy for some time. In a single instance it acted as a purgative, so that its use could not be continued. It will be found serviceable in checking the diarrhœa of disordered digestion, acting as lime-water does, only that the latter is so dilute that it is often impossible to administer it to adults in the quantity desirable. Patients who take saccharated lime habitually get to like the taste, and seem to think it exhilarating. It may be found useful also in allaying the cravings of the intemperate. I have no doubt that, if it be fairly tried, practitioners will find it an exceedingly useful remedy. It may be given in doses of from 20 or 30 to 60 minims or more, in a glass of water, two or three times a day."

5. *Use and Properties of Perchloride of Iron.*—The solution of this persalt is now almost universally employed to arrest arterial or venous hemorrhage, resulting either from accident, or as a consequence of surgical operations. It has also been found useful in intestinal hemorrhage; in one case in particular, M. Demarquay, of Paris, administered, morning and evening, enemata of seven ounces of fluid, with twenty drops of the concentrated solution of perchloride of iron, and a tablespoonful of the perchloride syrup (five or six drops to the tablespoonful), where the hemorrhage from the bowels was considerable, and had resisted the ordinary remedies. The result was extremely satisfactory. The same surgeon relates a second case of extensive abscess of the shoulder, where an injection of iodine caused severe hemorrhage. This was arrested by throwing into the sac a lotion composed of seven ounces of water and ten drops of the perchloride.

In gonorrhœa and leucorrhœa, injections of the perchloride have been tried with success in weak and lymphatic subjects, the proportion of the perchloride being twenty drops to three ounces and a half of water.

As a *Hæmostatic.*—1. As a local or external hæmostatic, 3 to 5 parts chloride of iron to 100 parts of distilled water. Lint soaked in this mixture is to be applied with more or less pressure on the seat of hemorrhage. 2. As an external hæmostatic, 1 part of chloride of iron to 500 of distilled water, sweetened to taste. One tablespoonful to be given every hour, or oftener, if necessary. This formula suffices to check the fiercest hemorrhage within twenty-four hours. The same formula, without sugar, forms a useful uterine injection or astringent lavement in cholera or colliquative diarrhœa. 3. A hæmostatic and resolvent ointment is composed of 4 to 15 parts of chloride of iron to 30 of axunge.

In a letter in the *Medical Gazette*, August 27th, Mr. J. Zachariah Laurence states that having, a few months ago, drawn the attention of the profession to the powerful local styptic properties of the *solid* perchloride of iron, he has since that time found a superior method of employing it. "If the solid perchloride of iron be kept in a bottle, a small portion of it after a time deliquesces into a thick brown fluid, which is constantly kept in a state of super-saturation

by the undeliquesced portions of the salt. This liquid, applied by means of a spun-glass brush to a bleeding surface, arrests the bleeding almost instantaneously. This mode of application is particularly valuable in applying the styptic to such cases as excision of the tonsils, bleeding from the deeper-seated gums, &c."—*Pharmaceutical Journal*, Oct., 1859.

6. *Alum Lozenges in Affections of the Throat.*—M. Argenti, of Venice, proposes, as a substitute for alum gargles in affections of the throat, lozenges formed of alum, sugar, and tragacanth, mixed up with diluted laurel-water, so as to form lozenges, each containing a suitable dose of alum. The mass is to be well manipulated, and, after division, to be put on a sheet of paper and dried by a gentle heat. The lozenges keep well, and form an agreeable medicament, which, by aid of the saliva, becomes effectually applied to the parts. A pharmacien of Paris has for some time past prepared chlorate of potass in the same manner.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, Dec. 3, 1859, from *Bull. de Thérap.*, tome lvii.

7. *New Method of applying Chloride of Zinc.*—Dr. G. W. Spence recommends (*Lancet*, Oct. 29, 1854) the following formula for the preparation of a paste or magma of chloride of zinc:—

"Dissolve fifty grains of prepared chalk in two drachms (by measure) of commercial muriatic acid; dissolve a hundred and fifty grains of sulphate of zinc in two fluidrachms of boiling water. When required for use, mix the two solutions, and the result will be a paste weighing nearly an ounce, and containing about one-sixth of pure chloride of zinc. The proportions are nearly, but not exactly, those indicated by the atomic weights. A little study would easily produce a paste of harder or softer consistency."

8. *A New Disinfectant for Dressing Putrid Sores and Ulcers.*—Considerable discussion has recently taken place in the French Academy respecting a new preparation, introduced by MM. Demeaux and Corne, for dressing and disinfecting putrid sores and ulcers. It consists of a mixture of 100 parts of commercial plaster of Paris in very fine powder, and from one to three parts of coal tar. This mixture forms a powder of a more or less grayish colour, and a slightly bituminous odour. For application, it may also be made into a paste with olive oil, which binds the powder together without destroying its absorptive power. The following are the properties of this substance, as described by the above gentlemen: A gangrenous sore, with an abundant fetid suppuration, treated with this dressing, is immediately freed from all disagreeable odour, and the bandages, even after 24 or 36 hours, exhale no more odour than if taken from a simple fracture. An ulcerated cancer producing a fetid serous suppuration, dressed with this substance, is entirely deprived of odour as long as the dressing remains on. So also the linen saturated with pus, cataplasms impregnated with the suppuration, &c., placed in contact with this substance lose all their disagreeable odour; the infectious liquid produced by gangrene, clots of decomposed blood, tissues in a state of advanced putrefaction, treated with this substance, are immediately disinfected. Its action appears to be to arrest the work of decomposition; it removes the insects, and prevents the production of maggots. The consistence acquired, either by the powder alone or the paste with oil, does not cause the least pain to the patient, or harm to the sore. Its application may be indirect or direct, the latter produces no harm, but rather exercises a detersive action favourable to cicatrization. This dressing has the double power of disinfecting the pus and other morbid products, and of absorbing them; the last circumstance is of the greatest importance, because it enables the use of lint to be dispensed with. Fifty kilogrammes of this powder may be made in Paris for one franc. M. Velpeau, at the Hôpital de la Charité, and several other French surgeons have employed this preparation with great success, and speak very highly of its disinfecting properties. Mr. Crace Calvert, of Manchester, has addressed a letter to the French Academy, in reference to this subject, pointing out the great variation which exists in the composition of coal tar, and the consequent necessity for more accurately ascertaining to which of the constituents the disinfecting properties are really due, in order to insure the uniform action